

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

LEE et al.

Atty. Ref.: 912-26

Appln. No. 09/697,123

Group Art Unit: 1634

Filed: October 27, 2000

Examiner: D.B. Johannsen

FOR: RPOB GENE FRAGMENTS AND A METHOD FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND IDENTI-

FICATION OF MYCOBACTERIUM TUBERCULOSIS AND NON-TUBERCULOSIS

MYCOBACTERIUM STRAINS

## REPLY TO INTERVIEW SUMMARY

September 2, 2003

Hon. Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

An Interview Summary was mailed on August 14, 2003. Applicants were given one month to file a statement of the substance of the interview.

The Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment was discussed. Compliance with the revised Rule 121 was not required when the Amendment of July 15, 2003 was filed. The Notice was improper because the Amendment complied with the requirements of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Therefore, no response to the Notice will be filed.

A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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